

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated September 1, 2004. Claims 1-60, 66, 71, 84, 90, 100-101, 113-114, 123-124, 130-131 and 135 have been canceled. Thus, claims 61-65, 67-70, 72-83, 85-89, 91-99, 102-112, 115-122, 125-129, 132-134 and 136-140 are now pending.

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 66, 71-75, 84, 90-93, 101, 114, 124 and 135 contain allowable subject matter. While not agreeing with the rejections, applicant has added the indicated allowable subject matter to the independent claims to place the instant application in condition for allowance. In particular, subject matter of allowable claim 71 has been added to claim 61; subject matter of allowable claim 90 has been added to claim 79; subject matter of allowable claim 101 has been added to claim 94; subject matter of allowable claim 114 has been added to claim 108; and subject matter of allowable claim 124 has been added to claim 121. These amendments have been made without prejudice to file a continuation application or the like as to other claims.

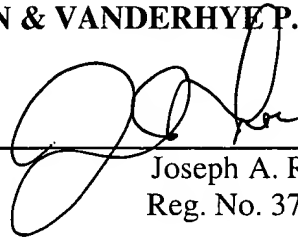
Thus, the application is now in condition for allowance, given the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter. If any minor matter remains to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with regard to the same.

INOUE et al.
Appl. No. 09/810,466
January 3, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Rhoa', is written over a horizontal line.

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